the environmental law and pollution fine is imposed on those who are violating the prescribed norms.

(3) Major hazardous waste generating units of the State have been identified and they have made arrangement for on-site storage in the absence of a common disposal facility.

(4) West Bengal Cleaner Production Centre has been established in collaboration with the National Cleaner Production Centre and the Indian Chamber of Commerce. Industries are encouraged to go beyond compliance and good performers are honoured with Environmental Excellence Award.

(5) Emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for new vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and are enforced by Transport Department of the Government of West Bengal.

(6) In Kolkata, unleaded petrol is supplied from 1.2.2000 and diesel with 0.25% sulphur maximum content is supplied from 1.1.2000.

(7) Manufacture, sale and use of fire crackers generating noise levels more than 90 dB(AI) at 5 m. distance from point of bursting has been banned in Kolkata. Playing of loudspeakers/ microphones has been restricted and use of sound level metre is made mandatory for playing loudspeakers/microphones. Use of acoustic enclosures has been made mandatory for operating diesel generator sets in Kolkata.

(c) A financial assistance of Rs. 5.00 crores has been provided to the State Government of West Bengal during the year 2001-02 to control pollution in the State, including the city of Kolkata.

Illegal Construction in Northern Ridge in Delhi

2103. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal construction in Northern Ridge, known as Kamla Nehru Ridge, in Delhi was carried out in 1998-99 by the forest department, in utter disregard of the Supreme Court orders which had specifically stated that no construction will be undertaken in Delhi ridge to maintain in its pristine glory;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, including the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) what action Government had taken against the officer concerned for the blatant violation of Supreme Court orders?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has informed that a four room building of 50 square meter plinth area was constructed near existing forest office building in Kamla Nehru Ridge (Northern Ridge) on the orders of the then Conservator of Forests, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in 1998-99 Rupees 2.60 lakh were spent on the construction of building. The building has subsequently been removed.

(c) As per extant procedures, the matter has been referred to the Central Vigilance Commission.

Ecological crisis in Sabari Mala

2104. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the Hindu dated the 27th December, 2001 on the alarmingly surpassed carrying capacity and the ecological, legal and managerial crisis on the site of the Sabari Mala Shrine, located in the Periyar Tiger Reserve;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(c) whether any further studies were initiated to resolve the issue at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India has suggested the following actions:—

(i) Garbage to be cleared and use of non biodegradable material should be strictly prohibited.

(ii) Environment friendly facilities for pilgrims to be created in Nilakkal to minimise impact of pilgrims on Periyar Tiger Reserve.

(iii) Introduce shuttle transport service from Nilakkal to Pamba to regulate flow and avoid overcrowding of pilgrims.